

## **2016COA Board February Minutes**

Present: Janet Kenneally, Margaret Hoag, Sharyn Lenhart, Murray Nichols, Phebe Downey, Michael Rudd, Ann Schummers, Patty Keane, Select Board Member Michael Lawson  
Missing: Meryl Schwartz, Pam Hanson, Al Alcares

Historian's Report-Given by Janet Kenneally. COA started in 1959. They had thought it was 1972. There is nothing in between those years. Was in inactivated? They are researching what happened in those years.

Disability Liaison-Given by Sharyn Lenhart subbing for Meryl Schwartz--looking into mental health disabilities in addition to physical disabilities.

Minuteman Liaison is continuing to work on finding a new Executive Director.

Tax Relief Warrant Article-- Discussion of whether or not we should take a position. Selectman will check on whether or not we can. We should put on the agenda for next month. Does not appear to be a group campaigning against it. Select Board Member Michael Lawson reported that Senator Barrett is not very supportive. He did not, however, actively oppose the Sudbury petition. He feels that it is up to the citizens of Concord.

Friends Support-- Sharyn made the suggestion that Ginger consider putting all requests for money from the friends, and whether it is denied or approved, in the newsletter. Many members thought this would be a good idea. Ginger agreed to ask the town manager's office about this idea.

### **Director's Report:**

1) A new facility manager for the town has been hired. Formerly the COA director has been solely in charge of the building. Jana Denglear is the new manager and it is anticipated she will be very helpful in managing Harvey Wheeler.

2) There is supposed to be an alarm system for when HVAC systems go out. The alarms have not been working. Working on putting these in place.

3) Harvey Wheeler now has wireless internet available to the public.

4) Smaller conference room downstairs may be turned into an office for Shine and AARP. It will have a conference room table in there.

5) Clock tower room has been painted. Plastic guards have been installed to protect the corners.

6) Ask the Town Manager program. Went well. Good size group attended.

7) Community Chest grant was submitted. The meeting with the committee has been scheduled. The employees who are funded by the Community Chest go and report to the committee.

8). Lions Club Spaghetti Lunch will be this Saturday.

9) Program on property tax relief coming up.

10) Barry Burbank, the meteorologist is coming, to give a program about the weather. A very popular program!

11) Spa Day is also very popular. They need more massage therapists.

12) Annual tea party coming up.

13) Beach party coming up to ward off the winter blues. March 22 is the tentative date. Friends denied the funding for the Kentucky Derby Event so this is to take the place of that event.

#### New Business:

##### 1) Discussion about Lexington At Home

Should we have a board meeting that extends to 7pm and on the same day have an evening meeting and invite the community? Will driving be an issue?

What about in the Spring at 4pm just before our board meeting? Shoot for April? April 12th at 4pm. Potluck dinner.

2) Oldest Seniors and their Needs. Seniors over 85 are continuing to grow. Would our board be interested in starting a subcommittee or a focus group to look at the oldest seniors and what should the COA be doing to reach out. It could be board members plus others?

Ann Schummers has volunteered to help Phebe. Sharyn has offered to help over the summer.

Sharyn mentions that the committee should include non board members. She will ask the housing committee for data on the needs of the over 85.

Patty points out that this dovetails with the Lexington at Home model. Ginger mentions that if we wait until after the LAH program maybe people would arise who might be interested in serving. It might be that there will be a focus on the super seniors.

Ann and Phebe and perhaps Sharyn will meet to come up with a committee charge and a name and the goals of the group. Hopefully they will have some proposal by next month. Phebe has a lot of data from Harvard and MIT. Housing is one issue.

Next Meeting: March 8th at 5pm **(note early start)** to review the budget. Members are to bring snack foods.